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Community Affairs Legislation Committee – Senate Standing Committee

Public Hearing – 2 October 2019
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: Social Services Legislation Amendment (Drug Testing Trial) Bill 2019

Question reference number: SQ19-000246

Senator: Siewert and McCarthy

Type of question: Hansard page reference: p. 48 and 52.

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 October 2019

Question:

Senator SIEWERT: If, rather than taking up time now, you could provide that list of which organisations and when, that would be appreciated.

Senator McCARTHY: Are you able to provide any information about First Nations organisations being consulted in the other two trial site areas?

Answer:

Summary of Stakeholder Engagement Undertaken by the department

Since announcement in the 2017-18 Budget, the Department of Social Services has engaged with more than 170 stakeholders, at more than 60 forums and meetings around Australia, in relation to the drug testing trial.

Budget Roadshows: May – June 2017

The Department of Social Services and the (then) Department of Employment conducted three Budget information sessions for non-government organisations following the 2017-18 Budget. Seventy-three organisations were invited to attend these Budget information sessions (details of which organisations attended are at Attachment A1).

These sessions informed key stakeholders on social security and employment related Budget measures, including a specific opportunity to focus on drugs measures, including the drug testing trial and an opportunity for stakeholders to raise issues and ask questions.

The following sessions were held:

- Canberra – 23 May 2017
- Sydney – 24 May 2017
- Melbourne – 2 June 2017.

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Initial Stakeholder Engagement meetings: May – July 2017

The Department of Social Services held individual stakeholder engagement meetings with thirty organisations Australia-wide across each jurisdiction between May and July 2017. This included meetings with state and territory Health and other relevant departments such as Police and Child Services. The department also met with representatives from medical specialist associations, drug and alcohol health services providers, and state alcohol and drug treatment networks.

Location	Organisation	Date
Hobart, TAS	Australian National Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drugs (ANACAD)	17 May 2017
	Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Council of Tasmania (ATDC)	11 July 2017
	TAS Department of Health and Human Services	11 July 2017
	The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP)	11 July 2017
	Tasmanian Alcohol and Drug Service	11 July 2017
Melbourne, VIC	Department of Health and Human Services	17 May 2017
	Victorian Alcohol and Drug Association (VAADA)	2 June 2017
	St Vincent's Health Australia and St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne – Department of Addiction Medicine (SVHM)	10 July 2017
	Monash Health & Turning Point Alcohol & Drug Centre	10 July 2017
	Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP)	10 July 2017
Darwin, NT	NT Department of Health	6 June 2017
Brisbane, QLD	QLD Department of Health	26 June 2017
	Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services	26 June 2017
Sydney, NSW	NSW Department of Health	24 May 2017
	Australian Council of Social Service	11 May 2017
	Network of Alcohol and Other Drugs Agencies (NSW) (NADA)	11 May 2017
	National Social Security Rights Network (NSSRN)	11 May 2017
Perth, WA	WA Mental Health Commission (MHC)	7 June 2017
	WA Police	7 June 2017
	WA Network of Alcohol and Drug Association (WANADA)	7 June 2017
Adelaide, SA	SA Department of Health	26 May 2017
Canberra, ACT	St Vincent's Health Australia (SVHA)	14 June 2017

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Location	Organisation	Date
	Australian Medical Association (AMA)	29 May 2017
	National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)	29 May 2017
	Australian Federation of Disability Organisations	30 May 2017
	Victorian Legal Aid	30 May 2017
	National Ethnic Disability Alliance (NEDA)	30 May 2017
	Drug and Alcohol Nurses of Australia (DANA)	30 May 2017
	People with Disability Australia (PWDA)	30 May 2017
	ACT Department of Health	13 July 2017

Local (Trial site) Stakeholder Engagement meetings: August – September 2017

Following announcement of the trial locations, the Department of Social Services held stakeholder engagement meetings with 19 organisations across the three Trial sites between August and September 2017. These meetings included state and territory health departments and relevant state and local stakeholders from the community and health sectors in Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia.

Location	Stakeholders	Date
Canterbury-Bankstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central and Eastern Sydney PHN • Canterbury-Bankstown Council • Network of Alcohol and Other Drugs Agencies (NADA) • ACOSS and NCOSS • National Social Security Rights Network • The Royal Australian College of Physicians 	29 August 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Western Sydney PHN 	30 August 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSW Department of Health 	11 October 2017
Logan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logan City Council • Brisbane South PHN • QLD Council of Social Services (QCOSS) • QLD Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies (QNADA) • QLD Department of Health 	28 August 2017
Mandurah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandurah Local Council • South Perth PHN • WA Network of Alcohol and Drug Association (WANADA) • Fresh Start Recovery Program (local treatment provider) 	7 September 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WA Department of Health 	8 September 2017

Logan Roundtable

On 29 September 2017, the department also attended an inter-agency roundtable on the drug testing trial in Logan, hosted by the former Minister for Human Services, Minister Tudge, and the local member, Mr Bert van Manen MP, for local service providers and community organisations.

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Location	Attendees	Date
Logan Roundtable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life without Barriers • Access Community Services • Lives Lived Well • YFS • FSG • Beenleigh Housing & Development Company Ltd • QLD Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies (QNADA) • Goldbridge • Brisbane South PHN 	29 September 2017

Local (Trial site) Information Sessions: October 2017

The department also held information sessions in each of the trial locations. Separate sessions were held for social services providers, medical and other health service providers, employment services providers and the general public.

These information sessions provided an opportunity for local stakeholders to hear more detail about how the trial will run, to ask questions and to provide feedback. The sessions were conducted by the department in conjunction with staff from the (then) Department of Employment and (then) Human Services. A list of organisations that attended these sessions is provided at Attachment A2.

Location	Sessions	Date
Canterbury-Bankstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social services providers* • Medical/treatment providers* • Community/members of the public 	11 October 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment services providers 	27 October 2017
Logan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social services providers • Medical/treatment providers • Community/members of the public 	12 October 2017
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment services providers 	30 October 2017
Mandurah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social services providers • Medical/treatment providers • Employment services providers • Community/members of the public 	31 October 2017

*There were no attendees at these sessions, which were promoted at short notice through the local newspaper, peaks and the local council.

Budget Information Sessions

An 'x' denotes that the organisation was invited to the session but did not attend. Where the organisation did attend this is marked as 'Attended'. Blacked out fields indicate the session was not applicable to the organisation.

ORGANISATIONS INVITED	Canberra Session 23/5/2017	Sydney Session 24/5/2017	Melbourne Session 2/6/2017
Age Discrimination Commissioner	x		
Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drug Association of the ACT Inc.	Attended		
Anglicare Australia	x	x	x
ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods	x		
Australian Association of Social Workers			Attended
Australian Capital Territory Council of Social Service Inc.	x		
Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry	Attended		
Australian Council of Social Service	x	x	
Australian Council of Trade Unions			x
Australian Industry Group		x	
Australian Injecting and Illicit Drugs Users League	Attended		
Australian Medical Association	x	x	
Australian National Advisory Council Alcohol and Drugs (ANACAD)	x		
Australian Red Cross	Attended	x	x
Australian Women Against Violence Alliance			x
Australian Services Union			Attended
Brotherhood of St Laurence			Attended
Business Council of Australia			x
Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research	Attended		
Centrecare Inc.	x		x
Community Housing Victoria			x
Community Housing Industry Association			x
COTA Australia	x	x	
COTA Victoria			Attended
Council of Single Mothers Victoria			Attended
Disability Employment Australia			Attended
Disabled People's Organisations Australia		x	
Domestic Violence NSW		Attended	
Economic Security4Women and Equality Rights Alliance		x	
Equality Rights Alliance - Women's Voices for Gender Equality	Attended		
Families Australia Inc.	x		
Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia	x		
Financial Rights Legal Centre		x	
First Peoples Disability Network		x	
Homelessness Australia	x		
Housing Choices Australia			Attended
Jobs Australia			Attended
Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research			Attended
Mission Australia	x	Attended	x

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ORGANISATIONS INVITED	Canberra Session 23/5/2017	Sydney Session 24/5/2017	Melbourne Session 2/6/2017
Multicultural Youth Advocacy Network and the Federation of Ethnic Communities' Council of Australia		x	x
National Affordable Housing Providers Ltd	Attended		
National Children's Commissioner	x		
National Congress of Australia's First Peoples		x	
National Council for Single Mothers and their Children			Attended
National Council of Churches in Australia	x	x	
National Disability Services	Attended	x	
National Disability Services Victoria			x
National Employment Services Australia (NESA)		x	
National Ethnic Disability Alliance (NEDA)	Attended		
National Seniors Australia	Attended		
National Social Security Rights Network (NSW)		Attended	x
Network of Alcohol and Other Drug Agencies		Attended	
New South Wales Community Housing Federation		x	
New South Wales Council of Social Services		Attended	
People with Disability		x	
Per Capita Melbourne Institute			x
PowerHousing Australia	Attended		
QLD Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies		Attended	
WA Network of Alcohol and Drug Association (WANADA)			Attended

Organisations represented at Local Information Sessions

Location	Sessions
Canterbury-Bankstown 11 October 2017	<p>Community session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 local resident • Arab Council of Australia (2 attendees) • Office of Linda Burney MP
Canterbury-Bankstown 27 October 2017	<p>Employment services provider session (15 organisations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PeoplePlus Lakemba • ORS Group • Global Skills • Ability Options • Breakthru • Employment Services Group (ESG) • CatholicCare - Direct Employment • Workskil Australia (2 attendees) • Northcott • MTC Australia • AFFORD Employment • The Deaf Society of NSW • Mission Australia • Mission Providence • WISE Employment
Logan 12 October 2017	<p>Social services provider session (8 organisations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logan City Council • Queensland Council of Social Service (QCOSS) (2 attendees) • ACCESS • Beenleigh Housing & Development Company (BHDC) (2 attendees) • YFS Legal • YFS Ltd • FSG Australia • Basic Rights Queensland <p>Medical/treatment provider session (1 organisation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brisbane South Primary Health Network (2 attendees) <p>Community session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 local resident
Logan 30 October 2017	<p>Employment services provider session (15 organisations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment Options (3 attendees) • Employment Plus • Epic Assist • Mission Australia • TURSA Employment & Training (2 attendees) • Sarina Russo Job Access (SRJA) (2 attendees) • Help Employment (6 attendees) • APM (2 attendees)

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Location	Sessions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ORS Group • Headspace • CIM Employment • Yourtown (4 attendees) • Gold Coast Employment Support Service Inc. (GCESS) Southport • Max Employment (3 attendees) • Mylestones Employment (2 attendees)
<p>Mandurah 31 October 2017</p>	<p>Social services provider session (19 organisations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palmerston (2 attendees) • Compassion Psychology Services • WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA) (2 attendees) • Peel District - Country Services Department of Communities • WA Department of Communities (2 attendees) • Financial Counsellors' Association • Wanslea (2 attendees) • Jobactive provider (unspecified) • Fremantle Community Legal Centre • St Vincent de Paul Society (WA) Inc. Mandurah (2 attendees) • Office of Andrew Hastie MP • WA Council of Social Service • WestAus Crisis (3 attendees) • Peel Development Commission • Sussex Street Community Law Service • Peel Community Legal Services Inc. • Welfare Rights & Advocacy Service WA (2 attendees) • Mission Australia (2 attendees) • Calvary Youth Services Mandurah (2 attendees) <p>Medical/treatment provider session (3 organisations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Rockingham Peel Group • Rockingham Peel Group • Terry White Chemmart, Mandurah Forum <p>Employment services provider session (7 organisations)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicare (3 attendees) • atWork Australia (2 attendees) • Forrest Personnel (4 attendees) • Status • Employment Services Group (ESG) (5 attendees) • Mission Providence (2 attendees) • Stirling Skills Training <p>Community session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 local residents • Office of Senator Louise Pratt • Office of Andrew Hastie MP

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Public Hearing – 2 October 2019
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Social Services

Topic: Social Services Legislation Amendment (Drug Testing Trial) Bill 2019

Question reference number: SQ19-000247

Senator: Siewert

Type of question: Hansard page reference: p. 55.

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 October 2019

Question:

Senator SIEWERT: How much has been allocated for departmental expenses?

Answer:

Consistent with the 2017–18 Budget announcement, financial impacts of the drug testing trial are not for publication. This is due to commercial sensitivities associated with the procurement activities that will be required to implement the trial.